



Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense: Legislative Affairs

Legislative Update

DOD SUPPORT FOR HURRICANE KATRINA RELIEF: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2005**

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (USACE)

Authorities

- USACE conducts its emergency response activities under two basic authorities:
 - The Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies Act (P.L. 84-99).
 - The Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (P.L. 93-288).

Command and Control

- Commander, USACE is Lieutenant General Strock in Washington, D.C.
- USACE Task Force Commander is Major General Don Riley in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.
- Mississippi Valley Division (MVD) Commander is Brigadier General Crear in Vicksburg, Mississippi. His area of operations covers the States of Louisiana and Mississippi.
- South Atlantic Division Commander is Brigadier General Walsh in Atlanta, Georgia. His area of operations covers the States of Alabama and Florida.

Operational Highlights

- 1,953 USACE personnel are supporting relief operations. Current unwatering estimates:
 - Orleans (East Bank) – 02 Oct, Orleans East – 08 Oct, Chalmette and Chalmette Extension – 08 Oct, and 18 Oct for both Plaquemines basins. These dates are contingent on normal seasonal rainfall amounts.
 - TF Unwater is now pumping 18,376 CFS out of the parishes of New Orleans and Plaquemines.
 - Hydrogen plant continues to be our highest priority. Continuing work to remove debris and close of the channel near the RR Bridge. Expect additional pumps to come online today.
 - Dutch and German teams are both on-station and assisting in unwatering operations.
 - We continue to work with EPA on water issues regarding our unwatering operations. EPA is monitoring and testing the water discharge into Lake Ponchartrain.
 - Actions for next 24 hours: Contactor will continue to add additional auxiliary pumps and expect water levels to continue to drop. We have identified a total of 27 levee breaches to date. Nineteen are attributable to the hurricane; eight are deliberate. Twelve interim repairs have been completed. We will continue work to halt “seepage” from the repairs made on the 17th Street Canal levee.
- Water and Ice: 54,245,000 liters of water and 216,160,000 lbs of ice delivered to date.
 - Excess ice is moving to prepare for Hurricane Ophelia.



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- Debris:
 - Total tonnage of debris removed and projected: 560,321 CY removed; 77.5M CY estimated.
 - Plaquemine Parish declined USACE assistance as of Sept 10th.
- Roofing:
 - Total temp roofs projected and completed: 51,000 projected and 300 completed.
 - Continuing to collect "Rights of Entry" in both MS and LA.
- Power: 29 Prime Power soldiers working in the area.
 - Last 24 hours: Continued working assessments and generator installs in Mississippi and Louisiana.
 - Have completed 678 assessments and 159 generator installs to date.
 - Pump Station Delta is the power for the main lift for New Orleans waste water treatment. Entergy is working to provide commercial power within next 48 hours.
 - Next 24 hours: Continue working to install power to permanent pumping stations, health facilities and to pumping stations around the hydrogen plant.
- Navigation:
 - Mississippi River is now declared open by the U.S. Coast Guard, all the way from the Head of Passes, North. The Head of Passes is the part of the river which is just above the Southwest Pass. The area from the Southwest Pass out into the Gulf of Mexico is the section now limited to deep draft vessels less than 39' (daylight only).
 - Inner Harbor Navigation Canal (IHNC) remains non operational due to bridge closures and sunken barges. Contractor expects to remove barges and open bridges by mid-week.
- Housing:
 - We have completed the design review mission for FEMA Housing Area Command and are ready to perform quality assurance (QA).